

THE GROUND WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

**4th MEETING
SUMMARY**

Monday, November 8, 2004

Prepared by:

The Department of Natural Resources

Office of Conservation

Ground Water Resources Division Staff

Commission members in attendance:

Scott Kirkpatrick, Chairman

James H. Welsh, Commissioner of Conservation

Karen Gautreaux, Department of Environmental Quality

Zahir "Bo" Bolourchi, DOTD - Water Resources

Darwin Knochenmus, Capital Area Groundwater Commission

Richard Durrett, Sparta Ground Water Conservation

John Roussel, Assistant Secretary Wildlife & Fisheries

Linda Walker, League of Women Voters

Karen Irion, Department of Health and Hospitals

Brad Spicer, Louisiana Agriculture & Forestry

Mike Bourgeois, Louisiana Landowners Association

Call to Order – Governor’s Office

Mr. Kirkpatrick began the meeting by having the Commission members introduce themselves.

Ground Water Staff Activities

Mr. Duplechin gave an overview of the staff’s activities since the last meeting, which included meetings with the Secretary of Natural Resources concerning the availability of Louisiana’s water resources for development, and a meeting with representatives of the People’s Republic of China Ministry of Water Resources.

Old Business

Mr. Duplechin briefed the Commission on the three public hearings that were held with respect to the Draft Order designating the three “Critical Ground Water Areas” for the Sparta Aquifer. Mr. Seiler went over several changes made to the proposed language for creation of regional bodies.

New Business

Ms. Mara Cohen of the Sierra Club addressed the Commission on concerns with the environmental impact of reservoirs. The Commission asked Division staff to give a report at the next Commission meeting on the process involved in permitting reservoirs. Mr. Henry Graham expressed concern over proposed language that would expand the definition of a “large volume well.”

Comments

Don Broussard asked what involvement, if any would the Commission have in the permitting of landfills. Commissioner Karen Gautreaux promised to provide an explanation of DEQ’s permit evaluation process at the next Commission meeting.

Schedule for the next Meeting

The next Ground Water Resources Commission meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 7, 200. The meeting will be held in the Conservation and Mineral Resources Hearing Room (LaBelle) in the LaSalle Building; 617 North Third Street; Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned.